



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 24, 2004

CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
MARVIN SMILON, HERBERT HADAD,  
MEGAN GAFFNEY  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE  
(212) 637-2600

**EX-WORLDCOM CEO BERNARD EBBERS FACING  
NEW CHARGES FILED BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that a federal Grand Jury sitting in Manhattan today returned a Superseding Indictment against BERNARD J. EBBERS, the former Chief Executive Officer and President of WorldCom, Inc. ("WorldCom"), in connection with his participation in a scheme to defraud investors, creditors, and the public regarding the financial condition and operating performance of WorldCom.

The Superseding Indictment charges EBBERS with six additional counts of making false filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") - one count for each quarterly or annual report that WorldCom filed during the period from the fourth quarter of WorldCom's 2000 fiscal year through the first quarter of its 2002 fiscal year. The Superseding Indictment also charges EBBERS with the same securities fraud and

conspiracy charges that were contained in the original Indictment filed against him on March 1, 2004.

The case is assigned to United States District Judge BARBARA S. JONES. Judge JONES has scheduled the trial for this matter for November 9, 2004. A pretrial conference in this matter is scheduled for May 25, 2004 at 6 P.M.

EBBERS, 62, resides in Jackson, Mississippi.

EBBERS is charged in the Superseding Indictment all told with one count of conspiracy, one count of securities fraud, and seven counts of making false filings with the SEC in connection with WorldCom's Quarterly and Annual Reports on Forms 10-Q and 10-K, which were filed from the third quarter of 2000 through the first quarter of 2002.

If convicted on the conspiracy count, EBBERS faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime. The securities fraud and false statements in public filings counts each carry a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$1 million fine, or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime.

Mr. KELLEY is a member of the President's Corporate Fraud Task Force, which is headed by Deputy Attorney General JAMES B. COMEY.

Assistant United States Attorneys DAVID B. ANDERS and

WILLIAM F. JOHNSON are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Superseding Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

04-102

###